

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Frank Dietsche et al.

Application No.: 10/595,494

Confirmation No.: 1545

Filed: October 23, 2006

Art Unit: 1794

For: ESSENTIALLY CHROMIUM-FREE
METHOD FOR PASSIVATING METALLIC
SURFACES CONSISTING OF ZN, ZN
ALLOYS, AL OR AL ALLOYS

Examiner: Jackson, Monique R.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)

MS Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO/SB/08. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date, OR more than three months after the date of entry of the national stage of a PCT application, AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, whichever occurs first, but before the mailing date of a Final Office Action or Notice of Allowance (37 CFR 1.97(c)).

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(ii), Applicant has not submitted copies of U.S. patents and U.S. patent applications. Applicant submits herewith copies of foreign patents and non-patent literature in accordance with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2).

The relevance of Citation BB is found at least at Citation AA, which is a US counterpart thereof. The relevance of Citation BC is found at least at the enclosed English-language abstract. The relevance of Citation BD is found at least at Citation AB, which is a US counterpart thereof. The relevance of Citation BE is found at least at the enclosed English-language abstract. The relevance of Citation BE is found at least at the enclosed English-language abstract. The relevance of Citation BF is found at least at the enclosed English-language abstract.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR 1.56(a) exists. In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(h), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to be an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to therein is “prior art” for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

It is submitted that the Information Disclosure Statement is in compliance with 37 CFR 1.98 and the Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the listed references.

Please charge our Credit Card in the amount of \$180.00 covering the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p). The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 22-0185, under Order No. 12810-00237-US1.

Dated: January 4, 2010

Respectfully submitted,

Electronic signature: /Georg M. Hasselmann/
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